

INDIAN ARTS AND CRAFTS
AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 2010

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 725, the Indian Arts and Crafts Amendments Act of 2010, and specifically the tribal law and order provisions now included.

The federal government has a unique trust relationship with the 564 sovereign tribal nations in the United States, and it is part of this trust responsibility for the federal government to provide law enforcement in Indian Country. The United States is not meeting its obligation. There are not enough law enforcement officers patrolling reservations, and the statistics illustrate the consequences. American Indians and Alaska Natives suffer from the highest crime rates in the nation. Federal law enforcement failed to prosecute more than half of the violent crimes in Indian Country, including sexual assault cases. This is especially troubling because the U.S. Justice Department found that one in three Native women will be raped in her lifetime.

That is why I urge my colleagues to support this bill and the tribal law and order provisions within it. This legislation improves law enforcement on tribal land by encouraging the prosecution of more crime, by increasing penalties for reservation offenders and by establishing protocols to address sexual violence. It encourages coordination between federal agencies, law enforcement officials and tribal communities for investigation and prosecution purposes. Under this act, tribal courts would be able to sentence offenders up to three years; currently, they can only sentence for up to one year. These changes are desperately needed.

This bill is a positive step towards meeting our trust responsibility and protecting Indian Country. As a member of the Congressional Native American Caucus, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 725.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, on Monday, July 26, 2010, I was unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 467 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1320, as amended), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 468 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1504, as amended), and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 469 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3101, as amended).

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 5817, THE
FOSTERING SUCCESS IN EDU-
CATION ACT**HON. JOHN LEWIS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I am proud to sponsor the Fostering Success in Education Act. This legislation is the House companion to Senator FRANKEN and Senator MURRAY's bill and lays out a clear road map to assisting young people in the child welfare system.

This legislation continues the efforts of the P.L. 110-351, Fostering Connections Act by improving educational assistance for those most in need—children and youth in the child welfare system. I hope that the Fostering Success in Education Act will enjoy the same bipartisan support and consideration to help these young people who have no one else.

Today, more than half a million children are living in foster care. As a member of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support, I have constantly heard from young people who struggle as they are constantly moved from home to home, and school to school when they are in foster care. Those in the child welfare system have not chosen this life; they did not ask to be victims of neglect and abuse. For a variety of reasons beyond their control, foster care children are uprooted from all that they know and rely on us for help.

We all remember our years in elementary, middle, and high school. We recall our friends, classmates, teachers, extracurricular activities, favorite classes, and hardest subjects. For foster care youth, it's a whirlwind of memories. Names, faces, classes, teachers, grades, and subjects are a blur. Imagine being the new kid, over and over and over again without the support you need. Imagine maneuvering the bureaucracy and politics of different schools and school districts on your own as a 12-year-old, as a 16-year-old, as a 6-year-old. This bill ensures that youth in foster care have school stability, immediate access to tools and resources, and the necessary support for academic success.

Madam Speaker, I believe that each and every young person has a right to a childhood; each has a right to a basic education. I believe that in addition to consistency, friendships, and healthy relationships, education is the key to opportunity, stability, and success. It is a cornerstone of our nation's values of democracy, hope, and infinite possibility.

The Fostering Success in Education Act takes us one step further in the right direction and responds to these all-too-real issues. Madam Speaker, I hope all of my colleagues will support this worthy and important legislative effort.

HONORING BILL LEGERE

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bill Legere on being

named the Maine Hospital Association's Caregiver of the Year and to recognize his many accomplishments as a medical professional.

After studying health care at the University of Southern Maine, Bill went on to work at Central Maine Medical Center. As a nurse practitioner in the ER at CMMC, he provides medical care and comfort to patients and their families.

When he suddenly and tragically lost his 9-year-old daughter, Grace, two years ago, Bill's response was not to give in to grief. Instead, Bill and his wife launched the Foundation for Hope and Grace, a charity in Grace's memory that provides grants to families looking to adopt and financial help to organizations that help orphans and other children in need.

Bill's ability to set people at ease, his willingness to stay late to support his colleagues and his empathy and selflessness in all aspects of his life meant that this year he was nominated by co-workers for the Caregiver of the Year award. He was selected from among 19 Maine doctors and nurses by the award committee, who was impressed by his outstanding work and humanistic approach to medical care.

An accomplished, compassionate, and deeply humble man, Bill Legere exemplifies the type of caregiver that every hospital and community would be lucky to have. His co-workers related stories of Bill taking the time to reassure a frightened child and being an ally for patients who might otherwise be intimidated by the medical process.

Bill has left a lasting mark on CMMC, its workers, its patients, and their loved ones. On behalf of the people of Maine, it is with pride that I congratulate Bill for his excellent work. I wish him, his wife Teresa, and his daughters Sarah and Deanna the best, especially as Sarah and Deanna become big sisters to their new sisters from Uganda.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Bill Legere for his continued commitment to providing medical care and support to the people of Maine.

NEXT GENERATION PUBLIC
SAFETY DEVICE ACT OF 2010**HON. JANE HARMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the bipartisan Next Generation Public Safety Device Act of 2010 with my Energy and Commerce colleague Representative JOHN SHIMKUS, Co-Chair of the E-911 Caucus. Our legislation is intended to spur development of 21st Century public safety communication devices that will provide the highest-speed transmission of data, voice, and video services over the Internet.

Almost a decade after 9/11, America's first responders still do not have the communication tools they need to support their mission.

Currently, the public safety device market is a monopoly. There are two reasons for lack of competition: first, this particular market is relatively small, and second, the device requirements are unique. As a result, first responders and local governments can pay up to \$5,000 per radio. The money spent on these devices